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Preparatory Committee for the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States
24-26 February, 21 March and 23-27 June 2014
Agenda item 2
Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Draft decision submitted by the Co-Chairs of the Preparatory Committee (New Zealand and Singapore) on the basis of informal consultations

Arrangements for accreditation and participation of relevant non-governmental organizations and other major groups in the preparatory process and in the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States

The Preparatory Committee for the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States decides on the following arrangements for accreditation and participation of relevant non-governmental organizations and other major groups in the preparatory process and in the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States:

1. The non-governmental organizations and major groups in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, as well as those that were accredited to previous conferences on the sustainable development of the Small Island Developing States, held in Barbados and Mauritius, shall register in order to participate.

2. The non-governmental organizations not in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council wishing to attend and contribute to the Conference, and whose work is relevant to the subject of the International Conference, may participate as observers in the International Conference as well as in the preparatory meetings, in accordance with the provisions contained in part VII of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31, and subject to the approval of the plenary meeting of the Preparatory Committee. While respecting fully the provisions contained in rule 57 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, this decision should be made by consensus.

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3. In accordance with that resolution, the secretariat of the Conference shall be responsible for the receipt and preliminary evaluation of requests for accreditation to the Conference and its preparatory process. In the discharge of its functions, the secretariat of the Conference shall work in close cooperation and coordination with the Non-Governmental Organizations Branch of the Secretariat and will review the relevance of the work of the applicants on the basis of their background and involvement in sustainable development issues, in particular in the process of follow-up to the Barbados Programme of Action and the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation.

4. The Secretariat shall publish and disseminate the list of applications received, in advance to Member States of the Preparatory Committee, at least one month before the first day of the second Preparatory Committee meeting, when the decision will be taken.

5. These arrangements are based on the Barbados and Mauritius decisions, and therefore the current decision shall apply only to the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, thereby not constituting a precedent.